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# Organization of the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items

## Memorandum by the Secretary-General

Contents


| | | Paragraphs | Page |
|---|---|---|---|
| I. | Introduction | 1–4 | 2 |
| II. | Organization of the session | 5–39 | 2 |
| | A. General Committee | 5–6 | 2 |
| | B. Rationalization of work | 7–9 | 3 |
| | C. Opening and closing dates of the session | 10–12 | 3 |
| | D. Seating arrangements | 13 | 4 |
| | E. Schedule of meetings | 14–16 | 4 |
| | F. General debate | 17–18 | 4 |
| | G. Conduct of the meetings, length of statements, explanations of vote, rights of reply, points of order and concluding statements | 19–23 | 5 |
| | H. Records of meetings | 24–26 | 5 |
| | I. Resolutions | 27–28 | 6 |
| | J. Documentation | 29–32 | 6 |
| | K. Questions relating to the programme budget | 33–37 | 7 |
| | L. Observances and commemorative meetings | 38 | 9 |
| | M. Special conferences | 39 | 9 |
| III. | Observations on the organization of the work of the General Assembly | 40–41 | 9 |
| IV. | Adoption of the agenda | 42–47 | 10 |
| V. | Allocation of items | 48–65 | 23 |


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# I. Introduction

1. The Secretary-General has the honour to place before the General Committee, for its consideration, the following observations and proposals in connection with the report to be made to the General Assembly by the General Committee regarding the organization of the fifty-eighth regular session and future sessions of the Assembly, the adoption of the agenda and the allocation of items.

2. Over the years, the General Assembly has adopted a number of provisions aimed at rationalizing the procedures and organization of the Assembly. These provisions are reproduced in the annexes to the rules of procedure of the General Assembly (A/520/Rev.15 and Amend.1 and 2, annexes I, II and IV-VIII).

3. The Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to the following resolutions of the General Assembly, the provisions of which are reflected in the present document under the relevant sections:

(a) Annex I (Guidelines on the Rationalization of the Agenda of the General Assembly) to resolution 48/264 of 29 July 1994, entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly";

(b) The annex to resolution 51/241 of 31 July 1997, entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations system";

(c) Paragraph 1 of resolution 52/163 of 15 December 1997, entitled "Amendment to rule 103 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly";

(d) The annex to resolution 55/285 of 7 September 2001, entitled "Revitalization of the General Assembly: improving the efficiency of the General Assembly";

(e) Resolution 56/509 of 8 July 2002, entitled "Amendments to rules 30, 31 and 99 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly";

(f) Resolution 57/301 of 13 March 2003, entitled "Amendment to rule 1 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly and opening date and duration of the general debate".

4. The Secretary-General also wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to his report on the reform of the United Nations, entitled "Strengthening of the United Nations: an agenda for further change" (A/57/387 and Corr.1).

# II. Organization of the session

## A. General Committee

5. The Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to rule 40 of the rules of procedure and to document A/56/1005 (annex, paras. 9 and 10) pertaining to the functions of the Committee.

6. The Secretary-General also wishes to bring to the attention of the General Committee that at the outset of each session, each Vice-President of the General Assembly shall designate a liaison person for the duration of the session. This

designation may be made by means of a letter to its President (resolution 55/285, annex, para. 20).

## B. Rationalization of work

7. The Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to the following resolutions and report of the Secretary-General in relation to the administrative and financial functioning of the Organization:

(a) Resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, entitled "Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations";

(b) Resolution 48/264 of 29 July 1994, entitled "Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly";

(c) Resolution 52/12 B of 19 December 1997 entitled "Renewing the United Nations: a programme for reform";

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on the review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations (A/56/82).

8. The Secretary-General also wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to paragraph 14 of the annex to resolution 55/285, which reads as follows:

> "14. As regards implementation of paragraph 7 of the annex to resolution 51/241, the President of the General Assembly, after consideration by the Assembly of the report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization, shall inform the Assembly of his assessment of the debate on the report in order for the Assembly to determine the need for further action."

9. The General Committee may wish to bring to the attention of the General Assembly that the Main Committees shall meet in substantive session only after the end of the general debate and that the First Committee and the Fourth Committee shall not meet simultaneously and may consider meeting in a sequential manner during the regular session of the General Assembly. This arrangement shall not apply if it affects their respective identities, programmes of work and effective consideration of their agendas (resolution 51/241, annex, paras. 31 and 36).

## C. Opening and closing dates of the session

10. In accordance with rule 1 of the rules of procedure, as amended by resolution 57/301 of 13 March 2003, the fifty-eighth regular session of the General Assembly shall begin on Tuesday, 16 September 2003.

11. The General Committee may wish to recommend to the General Assembly that the fifty-eighth session of the Assembly recess on Tuesday, 16 December 2003, and close on Monday, 13 September 2004 (rule 2 of the rules of procedure and para. 4 of annex V to the rules of procedure).

12. The General Committee may also wish to recommend to the General Assembly that, during the main part of the session, the First, the Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth) and the Sixth Committees complete their work by Friday,

7 November, the Third Committee by Friday, 21 November, the Second Committee by Friday, 5 December and the Fifth Committee by Tuesday, 9 December 2003.

## D. Seating arrangements

13. In accordance with established practice, the Secretary-General has drawn lots for the purpose of choosing the Member State to occupy the first desk on the General Assembly floor from which the alphabetical seating order will begin. The name drawn was Malawi. The other countries will follow in the English alphabetical order and the same order will be observed in the Main Committees.

## E. Schedule of meetings

14. The Secretary-General wishes to recall that, in view of financial constraints, meetings at Headquarters are no longer serviced beyond 6 p.m. or on weekends, with the exception of the plenary of the General Assembly and the Security Council. Consequently, meetings of the Main Committees during the fifty-eighth session, including informal meetings, should start promptly at 10 a.m. and be adjourned by 6 p.m. during weekdays.

15. Furthermore, the Secretary-General also wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to the fact that measures introduced to reduce costs relating to overtime will be strictly enforced.

16. The General Committee may wish to recommend to the General Assembly that, in accordance with past practice, it waive the requirement that at least one third of the members of the Assembly in the case of plenary meetings and one quarter of the members of a Main Committee in the case of Main Committee meetings be present in order to declare a meeting open and to permit the debate to proceed. This recommendation would be made on the understanding that such a waiver would not imply any permanent change in the provisions of rules 67 and 108 of the rules of procedure and that the requirement of the presence of a majority of the members for any decision to be taken would be maintained.

## F. General debate

17. The General Committee may wish to bring to the attention of the General Assembly that the general debate in the Assembly shall open on the Tuesday following the opening of the regular session of the General Assembly and shall be held without interruption over a period of nine working days, and that the list of speakers for each day shall be completed and no speakers will be rolled over to the next day, notwithstanding the implications for hours of work. Furthermore, there shall be no time limits or specified themes for the general debate but the General Assembly will indicate a voluntary guideline of up to twenty minutes for each statement (resolution 57/301, para. 2, and resolution 51/241, annex, paras. 20 (e) and 21).

18. In accordance with resolution 57/301, the general debate will open on Tuesday, 23 September, and end on Friday, 3 October 2003.

## G. Conduct of the meetings, length of statements, explanations of vote, rights of reply, points of order and concluding statements

19. The General Committee may wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to the relevant rules of procedure regarding the conduct of meetings, namely, rules 35, 68, 72, 73, 99 (b), 106, 109, 114 and 115.

20. The General Committee may also wish to draw to the attention of the General Assembly that explanations of vote should be limited to ten minutes; that when the same draft resolution is considered in a Main Committee and in plenary meeting, a delegation should, as far as possible, explain its vote only once, i.e., either in the Committee or in plenary meeting, unless that delegation's vote in plenary meeting is different from its vote in the Committee; and that delegations should exercise their right of reply at the end of the day whenever two meetings have been scheduled for that day and whenever such meetings are devoted to the consideration of the same item (decision 34/401, paras. 6-8 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI)).

21. The General Committee may wish to recommend to the General Assembly that points of order be limited to five minutes.

22. With a view to streamlining the procedures of the General Assembly and as another cost-saving measure, the General Committee may wish to recommend to the General Assembly that it review recommendations contained in paragraph 22 of the annex to resolution 51/241 and paragraph 23 of document A/52/855, regarding the length of statements.

23. The General Committee may wish to recommend to the General Assembly that, in order to save time at the end of the session, the practice of making concluding statements in the General Assembly and its Main Committees should be dispensed with except for statements by the presiding officers (decision 34/401, para. 17 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI)).

## H. Records of meetings

24. The Secretary-General wishes to recall that, as at past sessions, during the fifty-eighth session verbatim records will continue to be provided for the plenary meetings of the General Assembly and the meetings of the First Committee, and summary records will be provided for the General Committee and the other Main Committees of the Assembly.

25. Furthermore, the General Committee may wish to draw to the attention of the General Assembly that the practice of reproducing statements in extenso as separate documents shall be discontinued for all its subsidiary organs that are entitled to summary records and that any exceptions to this rule may be made by the body concerned only if the statements are to serve as bases for discussion and if, after hearing a statement of the relevant financial implications, the body decides that one or more statements in extenso may be included in the summary record, or reproduced as separate documents or as annexes to authorized documents (resolution 38/32 E of 25 November 1983, paras. 8 and 9).

26. In this connection, the General Committee may also wish to recommend to the General Assembly that the practice not to reproduce in extenso statements made in a Main Committee should be maintained for the fifty-seventh session.

## I. Resolutions

27. The General Committee may wish to bring to the attention of the General Assembly that:

- Whenever possible, resolutions requesting the discussion of a question at a subsequent session should not call for the inclusion of a separate new item and such discussion should be held under the item under which the resolution was adopted (decision 34/401, para. 32 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI)).
- "Efforts should be made to reduce the number of resolutions adopted by the General Assembly. Resolutions should request reports of the Secretary-General only in cases where that would be indispensable for facilitating the implementation of these resolutions or the continued examination of the question."[1]
- In order to ensure that resolutions have greater political impact, they should be short, in particular as regards the preambular parts, and should focus more on action-oriented operative paragraphs (resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, para. 69).
- Whenever possible, for the adoption by the General Assembly of agreed texts of resolutions and decisions, informal consultations should be carried out with the widest possible participation of Member States (resolution 45/45, annex, para. 1 (A/520/Rev.15/Amend.1, annex VIII, para. 1)).

28. The Secretary-General encourages Member States to transmit all draft resolutions and decisions in electronic form as well as on paper. The Secretary-General also wishes to inform the Member States that the submitters are responsible for ensuring that the electronic and paper versions of the draft resolutions and decisions are identical in content.

## J. Documentation

29. The General Committee may wish to draw to the attention of the General Assembly that:

- The General Assembly, including its Main Committees, should merely take note of those reports of the Secretary-General or subsidiary organs which do not require a decision by the Assembly and should neither debate nor adopt resolutions on them, unless specifically requested to do so by the Secretary-General or the organ concerned (decision 34/401, para. 28 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI)).
- The General Assembly, while reaffirming paragraph 28 of annex VI to the rules of procedure of the Assembly, reiterates that the terms "takes note of" and "notes" are neutral terms that constitute neither approval nor disapproval (decision 55/488 of 7 September 2001, annex).

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49* (A/41/49), para. 21, recommendation 3 (f).

30. The General Committee may also wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to resolution 57/283 B of 15 April 2003 regarding timely issuance of documents in the six official languages of the General Assembly.

31. The General Committee may wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to resolutions 48/264 and 55/285, in which the Assembly emphasized that restraint should be exercised in making requests for new reports and requested more integrated reports, and to resolution 57/270 B, in which it recognized the need to avoid requesting duplicative reports from the Secretary-General.

32. The General Committee may also wish to draw to the attention of the General Assembly that:

- Resolutions should request observations from States or reports by the Secretary-General in so far as they are likely to facilitate the implementation of the resolutions or the continued examination of the question (resolution 45/45, annex, para. 10 (A/520/Rev.15/Amend.1, annex VIII, para. 10)).
- Member States and entities of the United Nations system should make a serious effort to submit their replies and inputs to requests for information or views pursuant to resolutions of the General Assembly within the prescribed deadlines (resolution 55/285, annex, para. 17).

## K. Questions relating to the programme budget

33. The General Committee may wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to rule 153 of the rules of procedure, which reads as follows:

> "No resolution involving expenditure shall be recommended by a committee for approval by the General Assembly unless it is accompanied by an estimate of expenditures prepared by the Secretary-General. No resolution in respect of which expenditures are anticipated by the Secretary-General shall be voted by the General Assembly until the Administrative and Budgetary Committee (Fifth Committee) has had an opportunity of stating the effect of the proposal upon the budget estimates of the United Nations."

34. The General Committee may also wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraphs 12 and 13 of its decision 34/401 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI), which read as follows:

> "12. It is imperative that Main Committees should allow sufficient time for the preparation of the estimate of expenditures by the Secretariat and for its consideration by the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions and the Fifth Committee and that they should take this requirement into account when they adopt their programme of work.
>
> "13. Furthermore:
>
> "(a) A mandatory deadline, not later than 1 December, should be established for the submission to the Fifth Committee of all draft resolutions with financial implications;
>
> "(b) The Fifth Committee should, as a general practice, consider accepting without debate the recommendations of the Advisory Committee on

Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the financial implications of draft resolutions up to a prescribed limit, namely, $25,000 on any one item;

"(c) Firm deadlines should be set for the early submission of the reports of subsidiary organs which require consideration by the Fifth Committee;

"(d) A minimum period of forty-eight hours should be allowed between the submission and the voting of a proposal involving expenditure in order to allow the Secretary-General to prepare and present the related statement of administrative and financial implications."

35. The General Committee may further wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to regulation 5.9 of the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation (ST/SGB/2000/8; first adopted in resolution 37/234, annex; most recently amended in section III of resolution 53/207), which reads as follows:

"*Regulation 5.9*. No council, commission or other competent body shall take a decision involving either a change in the programme budget approved by the General Assembly or the possible requirement of expenditure unless it has received and taken account of a report from the Secretary-General on the programme budget implications of the proposal."

36. Furthermore, the General Committee may wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to paragraph 6 of its resolution 35/10 A of 3 November 1980, which reads as follows:

"6. *Decides* that all proposals affecting the schedule of conferences and meetings made at sessions of the General Assembly shall be reviewed by the Committee on Conferences when administrative implications are being considered under the requirements of rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the Assembly."

37. The General Committee may also wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to section VI of its resolution 45/248 B of 21 December 1990 on procedures for administrative and budgetary matters, which states that the Assembly:

"1. *Reaffirms* that the Fifth Committee is the appropriate Main Committee of the General Assembly entrusted with responsibilities for administrative and budgetary matters;

"2. *Reaffirms also* the role of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

"3. *Expresses its concern* at the tendency of its substantive Committees and other intergovernmental bodies to involve themselves in administrative and budgetary matters;

"4. *Invites* the Secretary-General to provide all intergovernmental bodies with the required information regarding procedures for administrative and budgetary matters."

(See also section III.)

## L. Observances and commemorative meetings

38. Considering past practice, the General Committee may wish to recommend to the General Assembly that it adopt a format for commemorative meetings that includes statements by the President of the General Assembly, the Secretary-General, the chairmen of the five regional groups and the representative of the host country.

## M. Special conferences

39. The General Committee may wish to draw the attention of the General Assembly to the following:

- "The Committee ... recommends that the General Assembly should instruct the Main Committees to review the number of special conferences of the United Nations already proposed and scheduled in their respective fields of activity prior to deciding upon the scheduling of new and additional special conferences, thus bearing in mind the relevant portions of General Assembly resolution 33/55." (recommendation 6 of the Committee on Conferences,[2] adopted by the Assembly in decision 34/405 of 1 November 1979, para. (b)).
- "... The decision of the General Assembly that no more than five special conferences should take place in a given year and that no more than one special conference should be convened at the same time should be strictly implemented."[3]
- "The existing principle that United Nations bodies should meet at their respective established headquarters, as provided for in General Assembly resolution 40/243 of 18 December 1985, should be strictly enforced. Whenever the Assembly accepts an invitation from the Government of a Member State to hold a conference or meeting away from established headquarters, the additional cost should be borne in full by that Government. The methods of budgeting these costs should be improved so as to ensure that all additional costs are accounted for."[4]

# III. Observations on the organization of the work of the General Assembly

40. With regard to rule 153 of the rules of procedure on the financial implications of resolutions and paragraph 13 (d) of decision 34/401 which requires a minimum period of forty-eight hours before action is taken on a proposal so as to allow the Secretary-General to prepare the programme budget implications of drafts before the General Assembly, the General Committee may wish to bring to the attention of the Assembly the fact that, in most cases, more than forty-eight hours are required for the Secretary-General to review the programme budget implications of proposals before the Assembly.

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[2] Ibid., *Thirty-fourth Session, Supplement No. 32* (A/34/32 and Corr.1), chap. VI.

[3] Ibid., *Forty-first Session, Supplement No. 49* (A/41/49), para. 21, recommendation 2 (d)).

[4] Ibid., recommendation 4.

41. The General Committee may also wish to bring to the attention of the General Assembly the fact that, in accordance with rule 78 of the rules of procedure, proposals have to be submitted well in advance of their consideration, in order to ensure that copies have been circulated not later than the day preceding the meeting at which they will be considered.

## IV. Adoption of the agenda

42. All proposals for the inclusion of items in the agenda of the fifty-eighth session have been communicated to Member States in the following documents:

(a) Provisional agenda of the fifty-eighth regular session (A/58/150);

(b) Supplementary list (A/58/200).

43. The items proposed for inclusion are listed in the draft agenda, which appears in paragraph 47 below.

44. The Secretary-General wishes to recall the relevant resolutions pertaining to the review of the agenda, namely, annex I to resolution 48/264, the annex to resolution 51/241 and the annex to resolution 55/285. The Secretary-General also wishes to recall paragraph 60 of resolution 57/270 B, in which the General Assembly stated that the General Committee should ensure better coordination of the agendas of the Second and Third Committees.

45. In addition, bearing in mind the extremely heavy workload of the General Assembly and the need to make the most effective use of scarce resources, the General Committee may wish to consider deferring to a later session items for which decisions or action are not required at the current session (resolution 51/241, annex, paras. 23-26).

46. The Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to General Assembly decision 49/426 of 9 December 1994, whereby the Assembly decided that the granting of observer status in the Assembly should in the future be confined to States and to those intergovernmental organizations whose activities covered matters of interest to the Assembly. (See also paragraph 49.)

47. Subject to the recommendations of the General Committee regarding paragraphs 42 to 46 above, the draft agenda of the fifty-eighth session would consist of the following items:[5]

[5] Abbreviations used in the present document:
[P]: Item on the provisional agenda (A/58/150);
[S]: Item on the supplementary list (A/58/200).

1. Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly [P.1].
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation [P.2].
3. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly [P.3]:
   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President of the General Assembly [P.4].[6]
5. Election of the officers of the Main Committees [P.5].[6,7]
6. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly [P.6].[6]
7. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations [P.7].
8. Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee [P.8].
9. General debate [P.9].
10. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization [P.10].
11. Report of the Security Council [P.11].
12. Report of the Economic and Social Council [P.12].
13. Report of the International Court of Justice [P.13].
14. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency [P.14].
15. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs [P.15]:
   (a) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;
   (b) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council.
16. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections [P.16]:
   (a) Election of forty-three members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;
   (b) Election of twenty-nine members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;
   (c) Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;
   (d) Election of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
17. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments [P.17]:

[6] In accordance with rule 30 of the rules of procedure, as amended by resolution 56/509 of 8 July 2002, the General Assembly will hold these elections for its fifty-ninth session at least three months before the opening of that session.

[7] The General Assembly still has to elect the Vice-Chairmen and Rapporteurs of the Main Committees of the fifty-eighth session.

(a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

(b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;

(c) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;

(d) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;

(e) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal;

(f) Appointment of the members of the Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

(g) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

(h) Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit;

(i) Confirmation of the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

18. Admission of new Members to the United Nations [P.18].

19. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [P.19].

20. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies [P.20].

21. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict [P.21].

22. Assistance in mine action [P.22].

23. Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal [P.23].

24. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations [P.24].

25. University for Peace [P.25].

26. The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development [P.26].

27. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic [P.27].

28. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security [P.28].

29. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte [P.29].

30. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba [P.30].

31. Question of Cyprus [P.31].[8]

[8] This item, which has not yet been considered by the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session, remains on the agenda of that session (decision 57/585 of 20 December 2002). Its inclusion in the draft agenda of the fifty-eighth session is subject to any action that the Assembly may take on it at its fifty-seventh session.

32. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo [P.32][8]

33. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [P.33].

34. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti [P.34].

35. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security [P.35].

36. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait [P.36].

37. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986 [P.37].

38. The situation in the Middle East [P.38].

39. Question of Palestine [P.39].

40. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support [P.40]:

    (a) New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support;

    (b) Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.

41. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance [P.41]:

    (a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

    (b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;

    (c) Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

    (d) Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development;

    (e) Assistance to the Palestinian people;

    (f) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan.

42. Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children [P.42].

43. Follow-up to the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage [P.43].

44. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin [P.44].

45. Culture of peace [P.45].

46. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development [P.46].

47. Towards global partnerships [P.47].

48. Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS [P.48].

49. Fifty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights [P.49].

50. Information and communication technologies for development [P.50].

51. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [P.51].

52. 2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa [P.52].

53. Oceans and the law of the sea [P.53]:

    (a) Oceans and the law of the sea;

    (b) Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments.

54. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [P.54].

55. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 [P.55].

56. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [P.56].[9]

57. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters [P.57].

58. United Nations reform: measures and proposals [P.58].

59. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields [P.59].

60. Strengthening of the United Nations system [P.60].

61. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [P.61].

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[9] This item remains on the agenda of the fifty-seventh session (decision 57/585 of 20 December 2002). Its inclusion in the draft agenda of the fifty-eighth session is subject to any action that the General Assembly may take on it at its fifty-seventh session.

62. Multilingualism [P.62].

63. Reduction of military budgets [P.63]:

    (a) Reduction of military budgets;

    (b) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures.

64. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification [P.64].

65. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace [P.65].

66. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty [P.66].

67. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) [P.67].

68. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security [P.68].

69. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security [P.69].

70. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament [P.70].

71. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East [P.71].

72. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons [P.72].

73. Prevention of an arms race in outer space [P.73].

74. General and complete disarmament [P.74]:

    (a) Notification of nuclear tests;

    (b) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;

    (c) Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons;

    (d) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda;

    (e) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;

    (f) Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;

    (g) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;

    (h) Relationship between disarmament and development;

    (i) National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology;

(j) Bilateral strategic nuclear arms reductions and the new strategic framework;

(k) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

(l) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them;

(m) Missiles;

(n) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

(o) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;

(p) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;

(q) Transparency in armaments;

(r) Regional disarmament;

(s) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

(t) Nuclear disarmament;

(u) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures;

(v) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

(w) Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;

(x) Reducing nuclear danger;

(y) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*;

(z) United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament.

75. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly [P.75]:

(a) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

(b) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

(c) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

(e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

(f) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons.

76. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session [P.76]:

    (a) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

    (b) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

    (c) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

    (d) Report of the Conference on Disarmament.

77. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East [P.77].

78. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects [P.78].

79. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region [P.79].

80. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty [P.80].

81. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction [P.81].

82. Effects of atomic radiation [P.82].

83. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space [P.83].

84. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East [P.84].

85. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories [P.85].

86. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects [P.86].

87. Questions relating to information [P.87].

88. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations [P.88].

89. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories [P.89].

90. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations [P.90].

91. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories [P.91].

92. Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India [P.92].

93. Macroeconomic policy questions [P.93]:

    (a) International trade and development;

(b) Science and technology for development;

(c) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries;

(d) International financial system and development;

(e) External debt crisis and development;

(f) Outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation;

(g) Commodities.

94. Sectoral policy questions: preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin [P.94].

95. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation [P.95]:

(a) Women in development;

(b) Human resources development;

(c) International migration and development;

(d) Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

96. Environment and sustainable development [P.96]:

(a) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005;

(b) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

(c) Convention on Biological Diversity;

(d) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

(e) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

(f) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

(g) Sustainable mountain development.

97. Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development [P.97].

98. United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development [P.98].

99. Operational activities for development [P.99]:

    (a) Operational activities for development;

    (b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.

100. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) [P.100].

101. Training and research [P.101]:

    (a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

    (b) United Nations System Staff College in Turin, Italy.

102. Globalization and interdependence [P.102].

103. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly [P.103].

104. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries [P.104].

105. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources [P.105].

106. Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development [P.106]:

    (a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development;

    (b) High-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development.

107. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly [P.107].

108. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family [P.108].

109. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing [P.109].

110. Crime prevention and criminal justice [P.110].

111. International drug control [P.111].

112. Advancement of women [P.112].

113. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" [P.113].

114. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions [P.114].

115. Promotion and protection of the rights of children [P.115].

116. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People [P.116].

117. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination [P.117]:

(a) Elimination of racism and racial discrimination;

(b) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.

118. Right of peoples to self-determination [P.118].

119. Human rights questions [P.119]:

(a) Implementation of human rights instruments;

(b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

(c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;

(d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action;

(e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.

120. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors [P.120]:

(a) United Nations;

(b) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

121. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [P.121].

122. Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 [P.122].

123. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 [P.123].

124. Programme planning [P.124].

125. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations [P.125].[8]

126. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations [P.126].

127. Pattern of conferences [P.127].

128. United Nations common system [P.128].

129. Human resources management [P.129].

130. Administration of justice at the United Nations [P.130].

131. Joint Inspection Unit [P.131].

132. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services [P.132].

133. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [P.133].

134. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 [P.134].

135. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations [P.135].

136. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations [P.136].

137. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola [P.137].

138. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina [P.138].

139. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus [P.139].

140. Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo [P.140].

141. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor [P.141].[8]

142. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor [P.142].

143. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea [P.143].

144. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia [P.144].

145. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) [P.145]:

    (a) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;

    (b) Other activities.

146. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo [P.146].

147. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East [P.147]:

    (a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

    (b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

148. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone [P.148].

149. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara [P.149].

150. Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order [P.150].

151. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [P.151].

152. Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property [P.152].

153. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-sixth session [P.153].

154. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-fifth session [P.154].

155. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [P.155].

156. International Criminal Court [P.156].

157. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [P.157].

158. Measures to eliminate international terrorism [P.158].

159. Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel [P.159].

160. International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings [P.160].

161. Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly [P.161].

162. Global road safety crisis [P.162].

163. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Côte d'Ivoire [P.163].

164. International Year of Sport and Physical Education [P.164].

165. Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Community in the General Assembly [P.165].

166. Question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations [S.1].

## V. Allocation of items

48. The allocation of items described in paragraph 65 below is based on the pattern adopted by the General Assembly for those items in previous years. The Secretary-General wishes to recall the relevant resolutions and decision dealing with guidelines for the allocation of items, namely, decision 34/401 (A/520/Rev.15, annex VI), resolution 39/88 B, resolution 45/45 (A/520/Rev.15 and Amend.1, annexes VII and VIII), annex I to resolution 48/264 and the annex to resolution 51/241.

49. The Secretary-General wishes to draw to the attention of the General Committee that any request by an organization for the granting of observer status in the General Assembly will be considered in plenary session after the consideration of the issue by the Sixth Committee of the Assembly (resolution 54/195 of 17 December 1999). (See also paragraph 46.)

50. The following items of the draft agenda have not been considered previously by the General Assembly:

163. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Côte d'Ivoire [P.163].

164. International Year of Sport and Physical Education [P.164].

165. Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Community in the General Assembly [P.165].

166. Question of the representation of the Republic of China (Taiwan) in the United Nations [S.1].

The sponsors of the requests for inclusion of the following items have suggested that they be allocated as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Item 163 | Fifth Committee |
| Item 164 | Plenary meetings |
| Item 166 | Plenary meetings |

51. In accordance with paragraph 2 of resolution 54/195, item 165 (Observer status for the Eurasian Economic Community in the General Assembly) should be allocated to the Sixth Committee (see para. 49).

52. With regard to *item 10* of the draft agenda (Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization), pursuant to paragraphs 4 and 10 of resolution 51/241 and as at previous sessions, the Secretary-General wishes to make a brief presentation of his annual report[10] as the first item in the morning prior to the opening of the general debate on Tuesday, 23 September 2003.

53. In connection with *item 12* of the draft agenda (Report of the Economic and Social Council), the Secretary-General wishes to recall decision 56/402 A of 9 November 2001, in which the General Assembly decided to consider directly in plenary meeting the report of the Economic and Social Council as a whole. Furthermore, taking into account the above and on the understanding that the administrative, programme and budgetary aspects should be dealt with by the Fifth

[10] To be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 1* (A/58/1).

Committee, the Secretary-General proposes that the various parts of the report[11] be also allocated as follows:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Chapter I | Matters calling for action by or brought to the attention of the General Assembly | Second, Third and Fifth Committees |
| Chapter II | Special high-level meeting of the Council with the Bretton Woods institutions | Second Committee |
| Chapter III | High-level segment | Second and Third Committees |
| Chapter IV | Operational activities segment | Second Committee |
| Chapter V | Coordination segment | Second and Third Committees |
| Chapter VII | General segment | |
| Section A | Implementation of and follow-up to major United Nations conferences and summits | Plenary meetings (see also para. 59) |
| Section B | Coordination, programme and other questions | Second, Third and Fifth Committees |
| Section C | Implementation of General Assembly resolutions 50/227 and 52/12 B | Second, Third and Fifth Committees |
| Section D | Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations | Second Committee and Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) |
| Section E | Regional cooperation | Second Committee |
| Section F | Economic and social repercussions of the Israeli occupation on the living conditions of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including Jerusalem, and the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan | Second Committee |
| Section G | Non-governmental organizations | Second Committee |
| Section H | Economic and environmental questions | Second Committee |
| Section I | Social and human rights questions | Third Committee |
| Chapter IX | Organizational matters | Second, Third and Fifth Committees |

[11] To be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/58/3).

54. With regard to *item 19* of the draft agenda (Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples), the General Committee may wish to consider referring to the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) chapters of the report of the Special Committee[12] relating to specific Territories; this would again enable the General Assembly to deal in plenary meeting with the question of the implementation of the Declaration as a whole.

55. With regard to *item 31* of the draft agenda (Question of Cyprus), the General Committee will recall that at its forty-second session[13] the General Assembly decided to consider this item directly in plenary meeting, on the understanding that it would, when considering the item, invite the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) to meet for the purpose of affording representatives of the Cypriot communities an opportunity to take the floor in the Committee in order to express their views, and that the Assembly would then resume its consideration of the item, taking into account the report of the Committee.

56. With regard to *item 33* of the draft agenda (Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas)), the Secretary-General wishes to remind the General Committee that at previous sessions the General Assembly has decided to consider this item directly in plenary meeting on the understanding that bodies and individuals having an interest in the question would be heard in the Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee) in conjunction with the consideration of the item in plenary meeting.

57. With regard to *item 48* of the draft agenda (Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS), the Secretary-General wishes to recall paragraph 1 of resolution 57/308 of 22 May 2003, in which the General Assembly decided to convene a day of high-level plenary meetings of the Assembly devoted to the follow-up to the outcome of its twenty-sixth special session and the implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS, to be held on 22 September 2003.

58. With regard to *item 49* (Fifty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights), *item 119 (b)* (Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms) and item *119 (d)* (Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action) of the draft agenda, the Secretary-General wishes to recall decisions 57/534 and 57/535 of 18 December 2002, whereby the General Assembly decided to request the Secretary-General to make the necessary arrangements for the awarding of human rights prizes at a plenary meeting on 10 December 2003 and that the plenary meeting on 10 December 2003 would also be devoted to the commemoration of the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

59. With regard to *item 51* of the draft agenda (Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields), which was allocated to the Second Committee during the fifty-seventh session, the Secretary-

[12] To be issued as *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-eighth Session, Supplement No. 23* (A/58/23).

[13] This item has not been considered since the thirty-seventh session.

General wishes to recall General Assembly resolution 57/270 A of 20 December 2002, in which the Assembly decided to consider this item directly in plenary meeting. The Secretary-General also wishes to recall General Assembly resolution 57/270 B of 23 June 2003, in which the Assembly decided to consider under this item the chapters of the annual report of the Economic and Social Council relevant to the integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits, including through the participation in its discussions of the President of the Council. (See also paragraph 53.)

60. In connection with *item 74* of the draft agenda (General and complete disarmament), the Secretary-General wishes to draw the attention of the General Committee to the fact that some portions of the annual report of the International Atomic Energy Agency (see A/58/312), which is to be considered directly in plenary meeting under item 14, deal with the subject matter of this item. The General Committee may therefore wish to recommend that the relevant paragraphs of the report be drawn to the attention of the First Committee in connection with its consideration of item 74.

61. With regard to *item 106 (b)* of the draft agenda (High-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development), the Secretary-General wishes to recall paragraphs 4 and 6 of resolution 57/250 of 20 December 2002. The Secretary-General also wishes to recall the announcement made by the President of the General Assembly at the 83rd plenary meeting, on 15 April 2003, that the High-level Dialogue on Financing for Development would be held on 29 and 30 October 2003.

62. In connection with *item 112* of the draft agenda (Advancement of women), the Secretary-General wishes to recall paragraph 16 of the annex to resolution 39/125 of 14 December 1984 concerning the United Nations Development Fund for Women, which reads as follows:

> "16. Taking into account the advice of the Consultative Committee, the Administrator shall submit to the Governing Council of the United Nations Development Programme an annual report on the operations, management and budget of the Fund. He shall submit a similar report to the General Assembly, to be referred to the Second Committee for consideration of its technical cooperation aspects and also to the Third Committee."

The General Committee may therefore wish to recommend that the report be referred to the Second Committee for consideration under item 99 of the draft agenda (Operational activities for development).

63. With regard to *item 124* of the draft agenda (Programme planning), the Secretary-General wishes to recall resolutions 54/236 of 23 December 1999 and 57/282 of 20 December 2002. In this connection, the General Committee may wish to recommend to the General Assembly that the relevant intergovernmental bodies, the plenary, the Main Committees and the Economic and Social Council include in their programme of work a review of the recommendations of the Committee for Programme and Coordination as provided below and transmit all relevant comments to the Fifth Committee prior to its consideration of the proposed medium-term plan and its revisions, and the consideration of the recommendations contained in chapter

III, section C, entitled "Evaluation", of the report of the Committee for Programme and Coordination (A/58/16):

| *Item of the draft agenda* | *Documentation* | *Committee* |
|---|---|---|
| 12. Report of the Economic and Social Council | A/58/16, chapter III, section B, programme 7, and A/58/84 | Second Committee |
| 40. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support | A/58/16, chapter III, section B, programme 8; chapter IV, section B, and A/58/83 | Plenary |
| 53. Oceans and the law of the sea | A/58/16, chapter III, section C.2 | Plenary |
| 87. Questions relating to information | A/58/16, chapter III, section B, programme 23, and A/58/90, annex | Special Political and Decolonization (Fourth Committee) |
| 93. Macroeconomic policy questions | A/58/16, chapter III, section C.3 | Second Committee |
| 112. Advancement of women | A/58/16, chapter III, section C.4 | Third Committee |

64. With regard to *item 130* of the draft agenda (Administration of justice at the United Nations), the Secretary-General wishes to recall paragraph 14 of resolution 57/307 of 15 April 2003, in which the General Assembly agreed that the United Nations Administrative Tribunal should be strengthened through an amendment to its statute and decided to take a decision on that matter at its fifty-eighth session. The Secretary-General also wishes to recall decision 56/402 A of 9 November 2001, in which the Assembly decided to allocate this item to the Fifth Committee, on the understanding that any decision requiring amendment to the statute of the Tribunal or relating to the establishment of a higher-level jurisdiction would be subject to the advice of the Sixth Committee. In the light of the above, the General Committee may wish to recommend to the Assembly that it allocate this item to the Fifth Committee for its consideration, and to the Sixth Committee for the sole purpose of considering the question of an amendment to the statute.

65. Subject to changes that may be made by the General Committee in the light of paragraphs 48 to 64 above, the allocation of the items of the draft agenda, as based on previous practice, would be as follows:

**Plenary meetings**

1. Opening of the session by the President of the General Assembly [P.1].
2. Minute of silent prayer or meditation [P.2].
3. Credentials of representatives to the fifty-eighth session of the General Assembly [P.3]:
   (a) Appointment of the members of the Credentials Committee;
   (b) Report of the Credentials Committee.
4. Election of the President of the General Assembly [P.4].
5. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the General Assembly [P.6].
6. Notification by the Secretary-General under Article 12, paragraph 2, of the Charter of the United Nations [P.7].
7. Organization of work, adoption of the agenda and allocation of items: reports of the General Committee [P.8].
8. General debate [P.9].
9. Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Organization [P.10] (see para. 52).
10. Report of the Security Council [P.11].
11. Report of the Economic and Social Council [P.12] (see paras. 53 and 63).
12. Report of the International Court of Justice [P.13].
13. Report of the International Atomic Energy Agency [P.14] (see para. 60).
14. Elections to fill vacancies in principal organs [P.15]:
   (a) Election of five non-permanent members of the Security Council;
   (b) Election of eighteen members of the Economic and Social Council.
15. Elections to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other elections [P.16]:
   (a) Election of forty-three members of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law;
   (b) Election of twenty-nine members of the Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme;
   (c) Election of seven members of the Committee for Programme and Coordination;
   (d) Election of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
16. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments [P.17]:[14]
   (f) Appointment of the members of the Consultative Committee of the United Nations Development Fund for Women;

[14] For sub-items (a) to (e), see "Fifth Committee", entry 32.

(g) Appointment of members of the Committee on Conferences;

(h) Appointment of a member of the Joint Inspection Unit;

(i) Confirmation of the appointment of the Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development.

17. Admission of new Members to the United Nations [P.18].

18. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [P.19] (see para. 54).

19. Support by the United Nations system of the efforts of Governments to promote and consolidate new or restored democracies [P.20].

20. The role of diamonds in fuelling conflict [P.21].

21. Assistance in mine action [P.22].

22. Building a peaceful and better world through sport and the Olympic ideal [P.23].

23. Implementation of the resolutions of the United Nations [P.24].

24. University for Peace [P.25].

25. The situation in Central America: progress in fashioning a region of peace, freedom, democracy and development [P.26].

26. Zone of peace and cooperation of the South Atlantic [P.27].

27. The situation in Afghanistan and its implications for international peace and security [P.28].

28. Question of the Comorian island of Mayotte [P.29].

29. Necessity of ending the economic, commercial and financial embargo imposed by the United States of America against Cuba [P.30].

30. Question of Cyprus [P.31] (see para. 55).

31. Armed aggression against the Democratic Republic of the Congo [P.32].

32. Question of the Falkland Islands (Malvinas) [P.33] (see para. 56).

33. The situation of democracy and human rights in Haiti [P.34].

34. Armed Israeli aggression against the Iraqi nuclear installations and its grave consequences for the established international system concerning the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the non-proliferation of nuclear weapons and international peace and security [P.35].

35. Consequences of the Iraqi occupation of and aggression against Kuwait [P.36].

36. Declaration of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of the Organization of African Unity on the aerial and naval military attack against the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriya by the present United States Administration in April 1986 [P.37].

37. The situation in the Middle East [P.38].

38. Question of Palestine [P.39].

39. New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support [P.40] (see para. 63):

    (a) New Partnership for Africa's Development: progress in implementation and international support;

    (b) Causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in Africa.

40. Strengthening of the coordination of humanitarian and disaster relief assistance of the United Nations, including special economic assistance [P.41]:

    (a) Strengthening of the coordination of emergency humanitarian assistance of the United Nations;

    (b) Special economic assistance to individual countries or regions;

    (c) Strengthening of international cooperation and coordination of efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster;

    (d) Participation of volunteers, "White Helmets", in the activities of the United Nations in the field of humanitarian relief, rehabilitation and technical cooperation for development;

    (e) Assistance to the Palestinian people;

    (f) Emergency international assistance for peace, normalcy and reconstruction of war-stricken Afghanistan.

41. Follow-up to the outcome of the special session on children [P.42].

42. Follow-up to the United Nations Year for Cultural Heritage [P.43].

43. Return or restitution of cultural property to the countries of origin [P.44].

44. Culture of peace [P.45].

45. Launching of global negotiations on international economic cooperation for development [P.46].

46. Towards global partnerships [P.47].

47. Follow-up to the outcome of the twenty-sixth special session: implementation of the Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS [P.48] (see para. 57).

48. Fifty-fifth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights [P.49] (see para. 58).

49. Information and communication technologies for development [P.50].

50. Integrated and coordinated implementation of and follow-up to the outcomes of the major United Nations conferences and summits in the economic, social and related fields [P.51] (see paras. 53 and 59).

51. 2001-2010: Decade to Roll Back Malaria in Developing Countries, Particularly in Africa [P.52].

52. Oceans and the law of the sea [P.53] (see para. 63):

    (a) Oceans and the law of the sea;

    (b) Sustainable fisheries, including through the 1995 Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, and related instruments.

53. Report of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [P.54].

54. Report of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 [P.55].

55. Revitalization of the work of the General Assembly [P.56].

56. Question of equitable representation on and increase in the membership of the Security Council and related matters [P.57].

57. United Nations reform: measures and proposals [P.58].

58. Restructuring and revitalization of the United Nations in the economic, social and related fields [P.59].

59. Strengthening of the United Nations system [P.60].

60. Follow-up to the outcome of the Millennium Summit [P.61].

61. Multilingualism [P.62].

62. Global road safety crisis [P.162].

63. Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development [P.106] (see para. 61):

    (b) High-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development.

64. Human rights questions [P.119] (see para 58):

    (b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

    (d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action.

**First Committee**

1. Reduction of military budgets [P.63]:
   (a) Reduction of military budgets;
   (b) Objective information on military matters, including transparency of military expenditures.
2. Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification [P.64].
3. Implementation of the Declaration of the Indian Ocean as a Zone of Peace [P.65].
4. African Nuclear-Weapon-Free Zone Treaty [P.66].
5. Consolidation of the regime established by the Treaty for the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America and the Caribbean (Treaty of Tlatelolco) [P.67].
6. Review of the implementation of the Declaration on the Strengthening of International Security [P.68].
7. Developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security [P.69].
8. Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament [P.70].
9. Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in the region of the Middle East [P.71].
10. Conclusion of effective international arrangements to assure non-nuclear-weapon States against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons [P.72].
11. Prevention of an arms race in outer space [P.73].
12. General and complete disarmament [P.74] (see para. 60):
    (a) Notification of nuclear tests;
    (b) Prohibition of the dumping of radioactive wastes;
    (c) Reduction of non-strategic nuclear weapons;
    (d) Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: the need for a new agenda;
    (e) Convening of the fourth special session of the General Assembly devoted to disarmament;
    (f) Promotion of multilateralism in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;
    (g) Observance of environmental norms in the drafting and implementation of agreements on disarmament and arms control;
    (h) Relationship between disarmament and development;
    (i) National legislation on transfer of arms, military equipment and dual-use goods and technology;

(j) Bilateral strategic nuclear arms reductions and the new strategic framework;

(k) Establishment of a nuclear-weapon-free zone in Central Asia;

(l) Assistance to States for curbing the illicit traffic in small arms and collecting them;

(m) Missiles;

(n) The illicit trade in small arms and light weapons in all its aspects;

(o) Nuclear-weapon-free southern hemisphere and adjacent areas;

(p) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-personnel Mines and on Their Destruction;

(q) Transparency in armaments;

(r) Regional disarmament;

(s) Conventional arms control at the regional and subregional levels;

(t) Nuclear disarmament;

(u) Consolidation of peace through practical disarmament measures;

(v) Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction;

(w) Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction;

(x) Reducing nuclear danger;

(y) Follow-up to the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the *Legality of the Threat or Use of Nuclear Weapons*;

(z) United Nations conference to identify ways of eliminating nuclear dangers in the context of nuclear disarmament.

13. Review and implementation of the Concluding Document of the Twelfth Special Session of the General Assembly [P.75]:

(a) United Nations regional centres for peace and disarmament;

(b) Regional confidence-building measures: activities of the United Nations Standing Advisory Committee on Security Questions in Central Africa;

(c) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace, Disarmament and Development in Latin America and the Caribbean;

(d) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Africa;

(e) United Nations Regional Centre for Peace and Disarmament in Asia and the Pacific;

(f) Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons.

14. Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session [P.76]:

    (a) Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters;

    (b) United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research;

    (c) Report of the Disarmament Commission;

    (d) Report of the Conference on Disarmament.

15. The risk of nuclear proliferation in the Middle East [P.77].

16. Convention on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Certain Conventional Weapons Which May Be Deemed to Be Excessively Injurious or to Have Indiscriminate Effects [P.78].

17. Strengthening of security and cooperation in the Mediterranean region [P.79].

18. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty [P.80].

19. Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on Their Destruction [P.81].

20. Election of the officers of the Main Committees [P.5].

**Special Political and Decolonization Committee (Fourth Committee)**

1. Effects of atomic radiation [P.82].

2. International cooperation in the peaceful uses of outer space [P.83].

3. United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East [P.84].

4. Report of the Special Committee to Investigate Israeli Practices Affecting the Human Rights of the Palestinian People and Other Arabs of the Occupied Territories [P.85].

5. Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects [P.86].

6. Questions relating to information [P.87] (see para. 63).

7. Information from Non-Self-Governing Territories transmitted under Article 73 *e* of the Charter of the United Nations [P.88].

8. Economic and other activities which affect the interests of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories [P.89].

9. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples by the specialized agencies and the international institutions associated with the United Nations [P.90].

10. Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter VII, section D) [P.12] (for further details, see para. 53).

11. Offers by Member States of study and training facilities for inhabitants of Non-Self-Governing Territories [P.91].

12. Question of the Malagasy islands of Glorieuses, Juan de Nova, Europa and Bassas da India [P.92].

13. Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples [P.19] (see para. 54).

14. Election of the officers of the Main Committees [P.5].

**Second Committee**

1. Macroeconomic policy questions [P.93] (see para. 63):

   (a) International trade and development;

   (b) Science and technology for development;

   (c) Specific actions related to the particular needs and problems of landlocked developing countries;

   (d) International financial system and development;

   (e) External debt crisis and development;

   (f) Outcome of the International Ministerial Conference of Landlocked and Transit Developing Countries and Donor Countries and International Financial and Development Institutions on Transit Transport Cooperation;

   (g) Commodities.

2. Sectoral policy questions: preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such assets to the countries of origin [P.94].

3. Sustainable development and international economic cooperation [P.95]:

   (a) Women in development;

   (b) Human resources development;

   (c) International migration and development;

   (d) Implementation of the Declaration on International Economic Cooperation, in particular the Revitalization of Economic Growth and Development of the Developing Countries, and implementation of the International Development Strategy for the Fourth United Nations Development Decade.

4. Environment and sustainable development [P.96]:

   (a) Promotion of new and renewable sources of energy, including the implementation of the World Solar Programme 1996-2005;

   (b) Implementation of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification in Those Countries Experiencing Serious Drought and/or Desertification, Particularly in Africa;

   (c) Convention on Biological Diversity;

   (d) Further implementation of the Programme of Action for the Sustainable Development of Small Island Developing States;

(e) International Strategy for Disaster Reduction;

(f) Protection of global climate for present and future generations of mankind;

(g) Sustainable mountain development.

5. Implementation of Agenda 21, the Programme for the Further Implementation of Agenda 21 and the outcomes of the World Summit on Sustainable Development [P.97].

6. United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development [P.98].

7. Operational activities for development [P.99] (see para. 62):

(a) Operational activities for development;

(b) Economic and technical cooperation among developing countries.

8. Implementation of the first United Nations Decade for the Eradication of Poverty (1997-2006) [P.100].

9. Training and research [P.101]:

(a) United Nations Institute for Training and Research;

(b) United Nations System Staff College in Turin, Italy.

10. Globalization and interdependence [P.102].

11. Implementation of the outcome of the United Nations Conference on Human Settlements (Habitat II) and of the twenty-fifth special session of the General Assembly [P.103].

12. Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries [P.104].

13. Permanent sovereignty of the Palestinian people in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including East Jerusalem, and of the Arab population in the occupied Syrian Golan over their natural resources [P.105].

14. Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development [P.106]:

(a) Follow-up to the International Conference on Financing for Development;

(b) High-level dialogue for the implementation of the outcome of the International Conference on Financing for Development (see para. 61).

15. Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters I to V, chapter VII, sections B to H, and chapter IX) [P.12] (for further details, see para. 53).

16. Election of the officers of the Main Committees [P.5].

**Third Committee**

1. Implementation of the outcome of the World Summit for Social Development and of the twenty-fourth special session of the General Assembly [P.107].
2. Social development, including questions relating to the world social situation and to youth, ageing, disabled persons and the family [P.108].
3. Follow-up to the International Year of Older Persons: Second World Assembly on Ageing [P.109].
4. Crime prevention and criminal justice [P.110].
5. International drug control [P.111].
6. Advancement of women [P.112] (see paras. 62 and 63).
7. Implementation of the outcome of the Fourth World Conference on Women and of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" [P.113].
8. Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, questions relating to refugees, returnees and displaced persons and humanitarian questions [P.114].
9. Promotion and protection of the rights of children [P.115].
10. Programme of activities of the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People [P.116].
11. Elimination of racism and racial discrimination [P.117]:
    (a) Elimination of racism and racial discrimination;
    (b) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Durban Declaration and Programme of Action.
12. Right of peoples to self-determination [P.118].
13. Human rights questions [P.119]:
    (a) Implementation of human rights instruments;
    (b) Human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms (see para. 58);
    (c) Human rights situations and reports of special rapporteurs and representatives;
    (d) Comprehensive implementation of and follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action (see para. 58);
    (e) Report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights.
14. Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapters I, III and V, chapter VII, sections B, C and I, and chapter IX) [P.12] (for further details, see para. 53).
15. Election of the officers of the Main Committees [P.5].

**Fifth Committee**

1. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors [P.120]:
   (a) United Nations;
   (b) Voluntary funds administered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.
2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [P.121].
3. Programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003 [P.122].
4. Proposed programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 [P.123].
5. Programme planning [P.124] (see para. 63).
6. Improving the financial situation of the United Nations [P.125].
7. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of the United Nations [P.126].
8. Pattern of conferences [P.127].
9. United Nations common system [P.128].
10. Human resources management [P.129].
11. Administration of justice at the United Nations [P.130] (see para. 64).
12. Joint Inspection Unit [P.131].
13. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services [P.132].
14. Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [P.133].
15. Financing of the International Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of the Former Yugoslavia since 1991 [P.134].
16. Scale of assessments for the apportionment of the expenses of United Nations peacekeeping operations [P.135].
17. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations [P.136].
18. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission and the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola [P.137].
19. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina [P.138].
20. Financing of the United Nations Peacekeeping Force in Cyprus [P.139].

21. Financing of the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo [P.140].

22. Financing of the United Nations Mission in East Timor [P.141].

23. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Support in East Timor [P.142].

24. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea [P.143].

25. Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Georgia [P.144].

26. Financing of the activities arising from Security Council resolution 687 (1991) [P.145]:

    (a) United Nations Iraq-Kuwait Observation Mission;

    (b) Other activities.

27. Financing of the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo [P.146].

28. Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping forces in the Middle East [P.147]:

    (a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

    (b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon.

29. Financing of the United Nations Mission in Sierra Leone [P.148].

30. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara [P.149].

31. Report of the Economic and Social Council (chapter I, chapter VII, sections B and C, and chapter IX) [P.12] (for further details, see para. 53).

32. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments [P.17]:[15]

    (a) Appointment of members of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions;

    (b) Appointment of members of the Committee on Contributions;

    (c) Appointment of a member of the Board of Auditors;

    (d) Confirmation of the appointment of members of the Investments Committee;

    (e) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal.

33. Election of the officers of the Main Committees [P.5].

[15] For sub-items (f) to (i), see "Plenary meetings", entry 16.

**Sixth Committee**

1. Progressive development of the principles and norms of international law relating to the new international economic order [P.150].
2. United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law [P.151].
3. Convention on jurisdictional immunities of States and their property [P.152].
4. Report of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law on the work of its thirty-sixth session [P.153].
5. Report of the International Law Commission on the work of its fifty-fifth session [P.154].
6. Report of the Committee on Relations with the Host Country [P.155].
7. International Criminal Court [P.156].
8. Report of the Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization [P.157].
9. Measures to eliminate international terrorism [P.158].
10. Scope of legal protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel [P.159].
11. International convention against the reproductive cloning of human beings [P.160].
12. Observer status for the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance in the General Assembly [P.161].
13. Election of the officers of the Main Committees [P.5].